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ABSTRACT

Information is provided on two external degree programs in nursing offered by the University of the State of New York, which operate through a program of assessment and proficiency examinations rather than of instruction. After Part I introduces the programs and their requirements, Part II provides information on accreditation and licensure. In Part III, the Associate in Applied Science (Nursing) and the Associate in Science (Nursing) degrees are compared and advice is given on selecting the program appropriate to a student's background and objectives. Part IV delineates the general education requirements in humanities, social sciences/history, and natural sciences/mathematics, and identifies methods of earning credit to satisfy these requirements (e.g., through previous college courses, previous degrees, and special assessment). Part V outlines the nursing requirements, which are the same for both degrees, including demonstrated knowledge in four nursing areas and successful completion of the Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination. In Part VI, procedures and advice are provided for individuals interested in pursuing either of the degrees. Finally, Parts VII and VIII identify the recognized proficiency examinations which may be used to earn credit for the nursing degree or fulfill general education requirements. (HB)

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ED216735

DEGREE DESCRIPTION

FOR

ASSOCIATE DEGREES IN NURSING

The University of the State of New York
Regents External Degree Program
Cultural Education Center
Albany, New York 12230
518-473-8957

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Regents External Degrees in Nursing

JC 820 233

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I. INTRODUCTION

The New York Regents External Degree Program (REX) of The University of the State of New York (USNY) offers two associate degrees in nursing designed to enable individuals to earn a college degree by using college courses, proficiency examinations and/or special assessment. It provides a program of assessment rather than instruction; classroom attendance is not required. Instead, REX evaluates a candidate's previous collegiate or independent study and offers examinations in content areas essential for the degree. It is free of customary time constraints and permits candidates to satisfy requirements at a pace that meets their individual situations. There are no prerequisites for enrollment such as age, residence or previous educational experience. With few exceptions there is no established order in which the requirements must be met and all degree requirements may be satisfied by examinations. Study guides for the proficiency examinations are available to enrolled candidates on request from the Albany office. Individuals planning to enroll in the Program should obtain the comprehensive Regents External Degrees-College Proficiency Examinations catalog by writing directly to the Regents External Degree office.

Requirements for the Regents External Associate Degrees in Nursing are divided into two components: a general education component (30 semester hour credits) and a nursing component (36 semester hour credits). Candidates who satisfy the requirements for both components are awarded an Associate in Science (nursing) degree or an Associate in Applied Science (nursing) degree by the Board of Regents of USNY.

Most candidates pursuing the associate degree in nursing have a background in nursing or related areas of health care - LPNs/LVNs, corpsmen, nursing attendants or aides. Such experience is extremely helpful; however, there are no enrollment prerequisites such as previous work, educational experience, or residence. Candidates with past nursing education and experience will find this background to be an advantage, permitting them to complete the degree requirements more quickly and with less difficulty than others. Although a nursing background is not mandatory, individuals who have no previous nursing experience are advised to consider a more conventional nursing program that provides instruction.

The Regents External Degree Program also offers a Bachelor of Science (nursing) degree. Candidates who are interested in this program should contact the Regents External Degree office for a degree description.

Certain Federal, NYS, and Veterans Administration scholarship, grant, and loan programs may be available to enrolled candidates who meet eligibility requirements. Information can be obtained from the Regents External Degree financial aid office.

II. ACCREDITATION AND LICENSURE

The Regents External Associate Degree (nursing) Program is registered with the State Education Department of The University of the State of New York, and is accredited by the National League for Nursing. The entire Regents External Degree Program is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Higher Education.

REX graduates are eligible to take the registered nurse licensure examination in New York State. Graduates who wish to be licensed in other states should contact the state board of nursing in those states for specific information to take the examinations or to obtain endorsement. Some state boards review REX graduates on an individual basis but two to three states do not not allow licensure at this time.

III. COMPARISON OF THE TWO ASSOCIATE DEGREES IN NURSING

The Regents External Degree Nursing Program (REDNP) offers two associate degrees in nursing: an Associate in Applied Science (nursing) (AASN) and an Associate in Science (nursing) (ASN). Requirements for the nursing component are identical for the two degrees; the difference is found in the requirements for the general education component.

The decision as to which degree to pursue should be based on the individual's choice of study in the arts and sciences and future educational plans. Candidates with additional educational or employment plans may find it helpful to contact those institutions to which they seek admission to determine which of the two degree programs would be most appropriate. Those who plan to continue working towards a bachelor's degree might find an AS (nursing) more to their advantage because they will have completed more of the liberal arts and science credits ultimately needed for a baccalaureate degree. The AAS (nursing) degree allows more flexibility in general education electives. However, the advantages of each degree vary with the candidate's circumstances and plans for future education.

Candidates must decide at the time of enrollment which degree they plan to pursue, but may change degree programs after enrolling, by completing a transfer form and paying the required fee.

The general education requirements for both the AS (nursing) and the AAS (nursing) can be met by the means described in the section that follows.

The AS (nursing) degree is awarded when 30 or more credits are earned in the arts and sciences distributed as indicated below, in addition to the nursing requirements. The AAS (nursing) degree is based on the number of courses or examinations satisfactorily completed as indicated below and allows considerable flexibility in the electives category.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Associate in Science (nursing) (ASN)		Associate in Applied Science (nursing) (AASN)	
Total	30 semester hour credits in the liberal arts and sciences (humanities, social sciences/history, natural sciences/mathematics). (Can be met by proficiency examinations and/or college courses)	Total	10 one-semester college courses* or 5 proficiency examination in the liberal arts and sciences and/or electives. (30 credit hour minimum)
Distribution Requirement:		Distribution Requirement: **	
Humanities	6 semester hour credits	Humanities	2 one-semester courses or 1 proficiency examination
Social Sciences/ History	6 semester hour credits	Social Sciences/ History	2 one-semester courses or 1 proficiency examination
Natural Sciences/ Mathematics	6 semester hour credits	Natural Sciences/ Mathematics	2 one-semester courses or 1 proficiency examination
Liberal Arts Electives	The remaining 12 semester hour credits must also be in the liberal arts and sciences (humanities, social sciences/history, natural sciences/mathematics)	Electives	The remaining 4 courses or 2 proficiency examinations can be in the liberal arts and sciences or in electives (such as health, accounting, etc.)

** 20 of the 30 required credits must be in the arts and sciences

* or 15 quarter courses

IV. GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The requirements in the general education component ensure that degree recipients have a basic college level competence in the humanities, social sciences/history and natural sciences/mathematics. Candidates should guard against duplicating subject matter covered in various courses and examinations. The Regents External Degree registrar will answer questions about possible duplication. There is no time limit on general education courses or examinations submitted for credit. Regardless of when these credits were earned they will be evaluated as long as they were earned at accredited institutions or through approved examinations and official transcripts are available. Only general education courses or examinations in which a grade of "D" or better was achieved can be used to satisfy a requirement. A minimum overall average of "C" is required for completion of the associate degrees in nursing.

A. Credit Hour Requirements

1. Associate in Science (nursing) (ASN)

To meet the general education requirements of the ASN degree, a candidate must have 30 semester hours of credit in the liberal arts and sciences, distributed in the following manner:

a. Humanities - A minimum of 6 semester hour credits must be earned in such subjects as: English, languages, philosophy, art, music, etc.

b. Social Sciences/History - A minimum of 6 semester hour credits must be earned in such subjects as: sociology, anthropology, history, political science, psychology, etc.

c. Natural Sciences/Mathematics - A minimum of 6 semester hour credits must be earned in such subjects as: anatomy and physiology, microbiology, chemistry, mathematics, etc.

d. Additional Humanities, Social Sciences/History, Natural Sciences/Mathematics to Provide Distribution Flexibility- An additional 12 semester hour credits are needed to satisfy general education requirements in the liberal arts and sciences. These twelve semester hour credits may be earned in either humanities, social sciences/history, natural sciences/mathematics or may be distributed among these three areas.

For additional examples of subjects for each major area see the list at the end of this section.

2. Associate in Applied Science (nursing) (AASN)

To meet the general education requirements of the AASN degree, a candidate must have passing grades in 10 college courses (each one semester in length, or 15 quarter-length courses) or satisfactory scores on five proficiency examinations totalling a minimum of 30 semester hours, distributed in the following manner:

a. Humanities - A minimum of two semester courses (three quarter courses) or at least one proficiency examination in such subjects as: English, languages, art, music, philosophy, theatre, etc.

b. Social Sciences/History - A minimum of two semester courses (three quarter courses) or at least one proficiency examination in such subjects as: economics, history, geography, sociology, psychology, etc.

c. Natural Sciences/Mathematics - A minimum of two semester courses (three quarter courses) in such subjects as: biology, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, microbiology, mathematics, etc.

d. Additional Courses or Examinations- A minimum of four semester courses (six quarter courses) or two proficiency examinations are considered to be unrestricted electives. These courses or examinations may be in such subjects as: health, education,

business, engineering, etc. They may be in the humanities, social sciences/history and natural sciences/mathematics categories. Physical education activity courses or associate degree nursing courses are not acceptable.

A minimum of 20 of the 30 required credits in the AAS (nursing) program must be in the liberal arts and sciences.

B. Ways To Earn Credit Toward Satisfying General Education Requirements

The general education requirements for both the AAS (nursing) and AS (nursing) can be satisfied by using:

1. A previously earned degree (associate or baccalaureate),
2. College courses from regionally accredited institutions of higher learning,
3. Recognized proficiency examinations, including those offered by CLEP, ACT and the DANTES programs,
4. Approved military service school courses,
5. Special Assessment, and/or
6. Noncollegiate sponsored instruction evaluated and recommended for credit.

Candidates may meet general education requirements by any one, or a combination of the above methods as long as proper distribution and grade point average requirements are satisfied. It is important for degree candidates to guard against duplication of credit.

1. A Previously Earned Degree

The requirements of the general education component can be satisfied by submitting verification that an Associate in Arts degree or a baccalaureate degree was completed at an accredited institution of higher education. Other associate degrees (Associate in Science, Associate in Applied Science, etc.) may or may not satisfy the requirements of the general education component and must be evaluated individually.

2. College Courses

A. Transcripts - Only official transcripts sent from regionally accredited colleges and universities will be evaluated by the Regents External Degree registrar. All transcripts from accredited institutions will be accepted for evaluation without regard to the number of institutions attended by the candidate or the dates of attendance.

B. Transcript Evaluation Policies - There is no time limit on completion of a course for it to be considered for credit. Only those grades and courses that candidates desire to apply toward their degrees will be evaluated. Those courses in which a grade of "D" or better was achieved can be used for purposes of satisfying degree requirements. However, grades of "D" must be balanced by grades of "A" or "B" to achieve a "C" average for graduation. For the Associate in Science (nursing) degree, the number of semester hours of credit allowed for individual courses is determined by the amount of credit that appears on the transcript as granted by the institution at which the courses were completed. Credit hours earned at colleges on a quarter hour system must be multiplied by two-thirds in order to convert them to semester hours.

Those courses that can be classified as satisfying the distribution requirements in humanities, social sciences/history, or natural sciences/mathematics will be recorded in the appropriate category. If a particular course cannot be identified as being related to one of these areas, it will be evaluated as elective credit.

3. Recognized Proficiency Examinations

A. Transcipts - Only official transcripts sent from the following college-level testing agencies will be evaluated for credit by the Regents External Degree registrar.

- New York College Proficiency Examination Program (NY-CPEP)* (general education proficiency examinations)

- Regents External Degree Examination Program (REDE) (business and nursing examinations) *
- College-Level Examination Program (CLEP-both subject and general examinations)
- College Board Advanced Placement Examination Program (AP)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) Advanced Tests
- Defense Activity for Non-traditional Education Support (DANTES)

* Outside New York State, these tests are offered by the American College Testing Program and are known as ACT PEP tests.

B. Transcript Evaluation Policies - There is no time limit for completion of an examination for it to be considered for credit. Discontinued examinations will be evaluated for credit as long as official transcripts are available. Only those examinations with a grade of "D", "Pass", or minimum acceptable standard score as determined by the Regents' faculty committee will be accepted toward meeting the degree requirements. A complete listing of the minimum acceptable scores for all of the examinations offered by the recognized testing agencies is in the Regents External Degree - College Proficiency Examination catalog.

Existing examinations offered by the recognized testing agencies have been classified according to the distribution requirements as humanities, social sciences/history or natural sciences/mathematics. Those examinations that can not be identified as relating to one of these areas are classified as electives. A list of these examinations, including the amount of credit granted toward meeting the requirements for the associate degrees in nursing is found at the end of this section. As new examinations are developed they will be classified according to the distribution requirements in the humanities, social sciences/history, or natural science/mathematics categories. Examinations that cannot be identified as relating to one of these areas will be evaluated as elective credit.

It should be noted that the College-Level Examination Program General Examinations in English, Humanities, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences-History are equivalent to the DANTES GED-College-Level Examinations in Expression, Literary Materials, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences, respectively. The completion of both types of examinations in a particular subject matter is considered duplication of credit toward a Regents External Degree. (See catalog for details.)

4. Special Assessment

Those individuals who have acquired college level knowledge in a particular area either through experience, independent study or course work completed at accredited institutions of learning and who wish to obtain credit for this knowledge other than by means of standard proficiency examinations may select the Special Assessment approach to earning credit.

A Special Assessment of a candidate's college level knowledge may take the form of an oral, written or performance examination. Artistic or literary portfolios may also be considered. The assessment process is designed with the participation of the candidate and conducted by faculty specially selected by the Regents External Degree Program.

Individuals may apply credit earned through Special Assessment only toward the general education requirements for the associate degrees in nursing. The amount of credit that may be granted and the cost for each assessment will vary according to the learning experience being evaluated. Further information is provided in the "Approaches to Earning Credit" section of the catalog. Nursing cannot be evaluated by Special Assessment.

5. Military Service School Courses

Credit may be earned toward the general education component of the associate degrees in nursing by completing military service school courses which contain college-level work and which have been evaluated by the Office

on Educational Credit and Credentials (OECC) (formerly the Commission on Accreditation of Service Experience) of the American Council on Education. The Regents External Degree Program follows the credit recommendations established by that office when such credit is appropriate to the fulfillment of the general education requirements. Only those courses that have been evaluated by the OECC and that carry credit recommendations may be used toward the associate degrees in nursing.

6. Evaluated Noncollegiate Educational Programs

Credit may be earned for noncollegiate, educational courses sponsored by business, industry, government, labor unions, police academies, and other agencies only if they have been evaluated by the American Council on Education or by the New York State Education Department's Office on Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction and carry a recommendation for college credit. A complete description of these courses and how to obtain further information about them is contained in the "Approaches to Earning Credit" section of the catalog.

7. Combination of the Above Approaches

Combinations of these approaches can be used to satisfy the distribution requirement (humanities, social sciences/history, natural sciences/mathematics and electives). Enrolled candidates may receive assistance in combining these approaches from their program advisor or transcript evaluator in the Regents External Degree Program office.

SAMPLE LIST OF TYPICAL COLLEGE COURSES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SUBJECT MATTER AREA

Humanities

American Literature
Art
Elementary Latin
English Composition
Intermediate French
Elementary Italian
Music Appreciation
Philosophy
Religion
Studio Art
Theater

Social Sciences/History

American Government
American History
Cultural Geography
Economic Geography
Economics
Educational Psychology
European History
Sociology of Aging
Growth and Development
Introduction to Anthropology
Psychology
Sociology
Western Civilization

Natural Sciences/Mathematics

Anatomy and Physiology
Astronomy
College Algebra
Biology
Chemistry
College Mathematics
Microbiology
Physics

Electives (for AAS nursing degree program only)

Health Education
Introduction to Accounting
Introduction to Business Administration
Mental Hygiene
Ecology
Reading Comprehension
Respiratory Therapy

V. NURSING REQUIREMENTS

The requirements in the nursing major ensure that degree recipients possess knowledge and technical nursing skills comparable to those of graduates of campus-based associate degree nursing programs. The candidate must demonstrate knowledge in four nursing content areas: health, commonalities in nursing care, differences in nursing care, and occupational strategy. These nursing areas, as a whole, correspond to the content typically included in associate degree nursing programs at accredited

two-year colleges. However, they represent a unique organization of nursing content and do not reflect the present curriculum design or structure of specific courses offered in any other college program.

In addition to the four nursing content areas, the successful completion of a Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination (CPNE) also is required of each candidate. Performance in the clinical setting is an integral part of every nursing program and REDNP candidates are required to demonstrate competence in performing technical nursing skills, as well as sound judgment in the areas of planning, implementing, and evaluating nursing care. Although the competencies tested may not correspond to those required in any particular course in a standard nursing curriculum, they do reflect the competencies required of graduates at the conclusion of associate degree programs.

A. Nursing Content Areas

The examination content areas included in the nursing component are: Nursing Health Care, Commonalities in Nursing Care, Differences in Nursing Care, Occupational Strategy, and Clinical Performance. Study guides are available for each examination. A general description of each area follows:

Written Examinations

1. Nursing Health Care (one examination)

   Basic concepts in health, interrelatedness of the psychosocial and cultural factors which affect health, health continuum, and the health care delivery system are tested in this examination.

2. Commonalities in Nursing Care (two examinations)

   Basic concepts in nursing, common recurring nursing problems, and nursing care common to all people are covered in these two examinations.

3. Differences in Nursing Care (three examinations)

   The content of these examinations is organized around common and specific manifestations of major health problems, both acute and chronic, and differences in nursing care resulting from specific health problems and the individual's response (covers entire life span).

4. Occupational Strategy (one examination)

   The role and function of the technical nurse, legal aspects, health and nursing teams, and nursing organizations are tested on this examination.

Performance Examination

5. Clinical Performance

   This examination involves actual patient care situations and simulated nursing laboratory situations in an actual hospital setting over a period of 2½ days. The candidate is required to administer comprehensive nursing care to several patients, each evaluated one at a time. For each patient care situation, the candidate is observed and graded on the entire nursing process including planning, implementation and evaluation for both children and adult patients. For each patient care situation, the candidate is closely observed by a nurse-evaluator who uses specific criteria to determine whether or not the nursing care is satisfactory.

B. Methods of Satisfying Nursing Requirements

1. Regents External Degree Examinations (REDE)

The area requirements of the nursing component may be satisfied by passing the following Regents External Degree Examinations:

a. Nursing Health Care (4 credits)
b. Commonalities in Nursing Care, Area I (4 credits)
c. Commonalities in Nursing Care, Area II (4 credits)
d. Differences in Nursing Care, Area I (4 credits)
e. Differences in Nursing Care, Area II (4 credits)
f. Differences in Nursing Care, Area III (4 credits)

g. Occupational Strategy (4 credits)
h. Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination (8 credits)

The seven written tests may be taken in any sequence, although the order listed above is suggested. Eligibility to take the Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination requires candidates to have successfully completed all seven written nursing examinations or have them waived by acceptable college courses in nursing. The general education requirements can be satisfied in any sequence before, after, or during completion of the nursing component requirements.

The only nursing examinations that may be used to meet the requirements of the nursing component are those listed above. Candidates should also note that CPE's in nursing CANNOT be used to satisfy the nursing requirements for the associate degree in nursing. (These tests are identified in the REDP catalog.)

2. Waiver of Written Nursing Examinations

a. By College Courses

One or more of the written examinations may be waived if the completed course(s) cover all of the topics included on the examination developed to measure achievement in that area. Since content for a specific course varies from college to college, a blanket statement concerning the waiver of an examination by a course with a particular title cannot be made. Instead, an examination will be waived only after an evaluation of the course description is made and the Nursing Faculty Transcript Committee is satisfied that all criteria have been met: usually a combination of nursing courses is required to waive one or more examinations.

The candidate is responsible for having official descriptions of the course(s) sent by the registrar of the institution attended to the Regents External Degree registrar. A course will qualify for credit toward the nursing degree only after an evaluation of its description is made and the Faculty Transcript Evaluation Committee, which meets quarterly, is certain that the appropriate topics were covered. Candidates should expect to receive results of their evaluation 6 to 8 weeks after the Regents External Degree Program has received the official description to be evaluated. Additional information on waiver of the written nursing examinations is found in the REDP catalog.

Note: The Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination is not waived under any circumstances. Every candidate must demonstrate clinical competence by successfully completing the CPNE.

b. By Military Service School

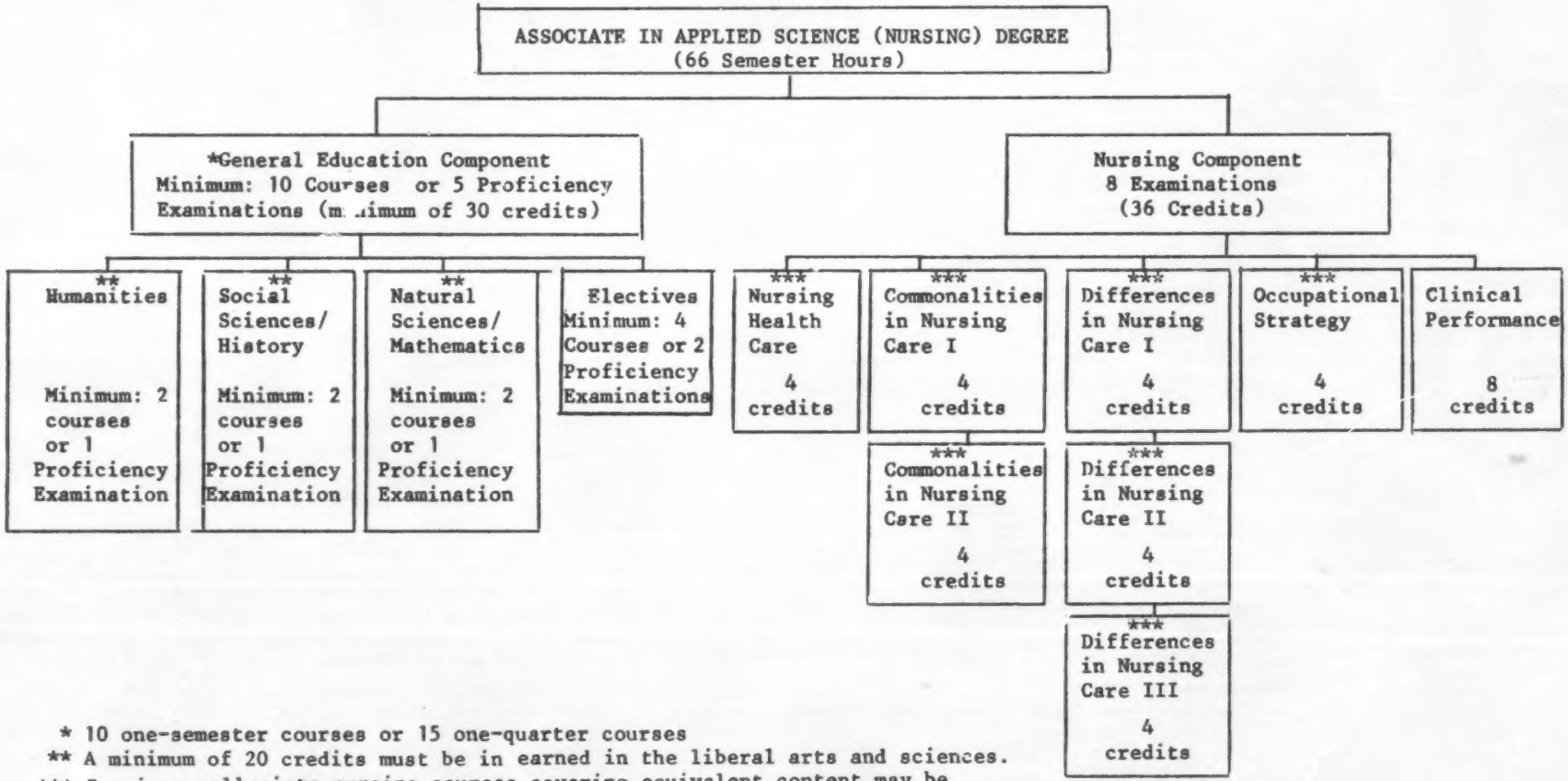
Nursing requirements may be met by successfully completing military service schools or occupational specialties which contain appropriate nursing-related college level work and which have been evaluated by the Office on Educational Credit and Credentials (OECC) of the American Council of Education (ACE). OECC recommendations are considered by the Nursing Faculty in evaluating nursing and nursing-related military courses for waiver of examinations in the nursing component of the Regents External Degrees.

Only under the following conditions may transcripts from college or military service school courses be submitted for purposes of requesting a waiver of a Regents External Degree nursing examination:

1. Courses must have been accomplished within 10 years of the date of enrollment in the Regents External Degree Program.
2. Courses must cover all the topics included on the examination developed to measure achievement in that area.
3. Courses must carry a grade of "C" or better.
4. Courses must be from an accredited institution of higher education or an approved military service school program. College or university-level nursing courses from fully recognized foreign institutions of higher education can also be submitted for evaluation.

Examinations, graded on a scale scored basis such as the seven written REDP nursing examinations described above, are not included in the overall grade point average. A scaled score of 45 or above is required to pass.

NEW YORK REGENTS EXTERNAL DEGREE PROGRAM


ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (NURSING) DEGREE
(66 Semester Hours)
*General Education Component
Minimum: 10 Courses or 5 Proficiency Examinations (minimum of 30 credits)
Nursing Component
8 Examinations
(36 Credits)
** Humanities
Minimum: 2 courses or 1 Proficiency Examination
** Social Sciences/ History
Minimum: 2 courses or 1 Proficiency Examination
** Natural Sciences/ Mathematics
Minimum: 2 courses or 1 Proficiency Examination
Electives
Minimum: 4 Courses or 2 Proficiency Examinations
*** Nursing Health Care
4 credits
*** Commonalities in Nursing Care I
4 credits
*** Commonalities in Nursing Care II
4 credits
*** Differences in Nursing Care I
4 credits
*** Differences in Nursing Care II
4 credits
*** Differences in Nursing Care III
4 credits
*** Occupational Strategy
4 credits
Clinical Performance
8 credits

* 10 one-semester courses or 15 one-quarter courses
** A minimum of 20 credits must be in earned in the liberal arts and sciences.
*** Previous collegiate nursing courses covering equivalent content may be submitted for consideration to waive these examinations.

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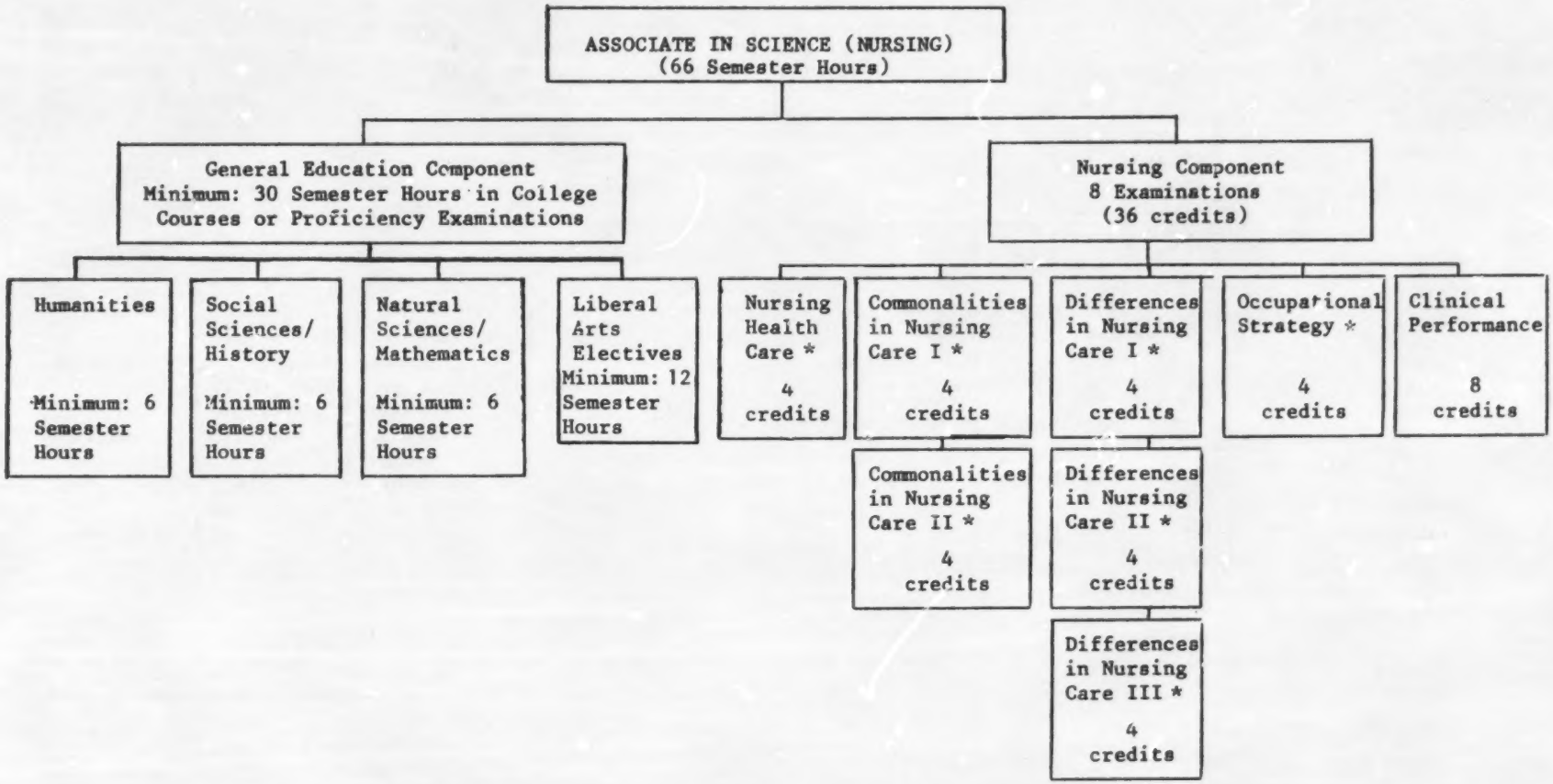
NEW YORK REGENTS EXTERNAL DEGREE PROGRAM



*Previous collegiate nursing courses covering equivalent content may be submitted for consideration to waive these examinations.

USNY, Regents External Degrees

VI. HOW TO BEGIN

Anyone who is interested in earning a Regents External Degree should follow the procedures described below. Keep in mind that it takes considerable self-motivation and the ability to adhere to your educational goals to be successful in an independent study program such as this. Individuals interested in enrolling should obtain a catalog from the central office.

1. Become familiar with the amount and kind of academic work required for the degree program which interests you. Familiarize yourself with the various ways by which credit may be earned toward a Regents External Degree.

2. Compare your prior academic work, if any, with the requirements of the degree program you have selected. For example, if you have taken college courses or proficiency examinations, try to classify them according to subject areas such as humanities, social or natural sciences, etc. (See p. 17-19 for a list of tests by type.) This self-evaluation will help you to estimate the extent to which you have satisfied the requirements and the amount of additional work you will have to complete to qualify for a degree.

3. To enroll, a candidate should complete the enrollment form and return it with the appropriate fee. Send form directly to the Registrar, Regents External Degree Program, Cultural Education Center, Room 5D28, Albany, New York 12230.

   Candidates are officially enrolled in a Regents External Degree Program as soon as they receive a letter acknowledging receipt of their correctly completed enrollment form and fee. Enrolling in the program entitles candidates to an evaluation of official transcripts from accredited colleges and universities, testing agencies, and/or military education programs they wish to present for credit toward a degree.

   Candidates are advised NOT to have transcripts forwarded for evaluation until they are officially enrolled in the program. However, upon receipt of the letter from the Program acknowledging enrollment, official transcripts should be forwarded promptly to the Regents External Degree Registrar for evaluation.

4. Candidates are expected to plan their own program of study based on previous nursing and collegiate background and current goals. There is no time limit for completing the Program; individuals may move through the Program at their own pace. Candidates should contact the Albany office for assistance or clarification. A list of volunteer nursing advisors in New York State is available.

5. Candidates may begin to meet nursing requirements by taking the nursing written examinations as previously described. Study guides are available and candidates can take these examinations as soon as they feel ready.

6. Candidates may begin general study and preparation for the performance examination at any time. The Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination Study Guide is available only to enrolled candidates from the Albany office.

   The Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination (CPNE) can be taken only after the seven written nursing examinations required for the Associate in Science (nursing) degree or the Associate in Applied Science (nursing) degree have been completed.

7. Because candidates can proceed at their own pace and use a variety of approaches to meet requirements, they are individually responsible for requesting study guides, examination application forms, and other materials whenever appropriate to their circumstances. Such forms and materials are not mailed automatically. Read directions carefully for examination application deadlines, in or outside New York State.

8. New York State candidates should correspond with the Albany office for study guides and applications for all examinations; those in other states should write to ACT PEP, EXCEPT: CPNE study guide and application are available only from Albany.

All candidates should correspond with the Albany REX office regarding enrollment, program advisement, transcript evaluation, etc. ACT is responsible only for the administration of written examinations outside New York State.

9. To request materials from the Albany office, use the form on the back of this degree description.

   On the following page, you will find a worksheet designed to help you determine your status and monitor your progress in meeting the associate nursing degree requirements.

   a. Read this degree description carefully to be certain that you understand all of the requirements.

   b. Review your own past academic records to determine whether you have previous college credits that may be applied to meet some of the requirements.

   c. Using the worksheet, list the college courses and/or proficiency examinations you have taken in general education subjects. Indicate: a) whether the course or examination is a humanities, social sciences/history, natural sciences/mathematics or elective subject; b) the number of credits; and c) the grade you received. Listing the date also is helpful. Remember, there is no time restriction for transferring general education courses or examinations.

   d. Note the total number of credits you already have earned in each area of the general education requirements to help you determine the areas in which you need to earn additional credits. Decide which courses or examinations you plan to take in order to complete degree requirements.

   e. Indicate which college level nursing courses or examinations you have successfully completed within the 10-year period prior to enrollment in the external degree.

   f. If you believe you have collegiate nursing courses that can be used to waive nursing examinations, you should enroll and have these evaluated by the nursing transcript committee.

10. REX has no agents or representatives, branches or extension offices except the regional performance assessment centers. Organizations, as well as individual entrepreneurs, may provide a helpful service to candidates but they do so without the approval or control of REX. All materials necessary for enrollment and preparation for REDE examinations are available upon request from this office without fee.

Note: The attached worksheet is not intended to substitute for the official status report sent to enrolled candidates by the Registrar's Office. However, using it as described is very helpful prior to contacting a volunteer advisor or the program advisor in the Albany office. If you have questions regarding the classification of courses, the use of collegiate courses to waive nursing examinations, or the methods to be used in meeting requirements, contact the Albany office. The list at the end of this booklet is a helpful guide for classifying courses and tests. If you plan to enroll in the Regents External Degree Program be certain to obtain the complete catalog.

CANDIDATE PRELIMINARY WORKSHEET

Directions: List any courses or examinations you already have completed and fill in required information for each column. Then list courses or exams you plan to take to complete all degree requirements. Tally the number of credits in each category and compare with stated requirements.

COLLEGE - LEVEL WORK

	Date	Grade	Humanities	Soc. Sciences/ History	Nat. Sciences/ Math.	Electives	Nsg. Health Care	Commonalities in Nsg. Care I	Commonalities in Nsg. Care II	Differences in Nsg. Care I	Differences in Nsg. Care II	Differences in Nsg. Care III	Occupational Strategy	CPNE
List general education courses/ examinations														
List College-level nursing examinations and/or courses														
TOTAL														
(It may be helpful to use pencil so that you can keep a running total as you earn credits.)														

CANDIDATE PRELIMINARY WORKSHEET

Directions: List any courses or examinations you already have completed and fill in required information for each column. Then list courses or exams you plan to take to complete all degree requirements. Tally the number of credits in each category and compare with stated requirements.

COLLEGE - LEVEL WORK

	Date	Grade	Humanities	Soc. Sciences/ History	Nat. Sciences/ Math.	Electives	Nsg. Health Care	Commonalities in Nsg. Care I	Commonalities in Nsg. Care II	Differences in Nsg. Care I	Differences in Nsg. Care II	Differences in Nsg. Care III	Occupational Strategy	CPNE
List general education courses/ examinations														
Nassau Community College (1976-78) Psy 201 Intro. Psychology		C		3										
Orange Community College (1975) 11101 Freshman English		B	3											
NY-CPE Anatomy & Physiology (52)*		P			6									
CLEP Introduction to Sociology (48)**		P		3										
List College-level nursing examinations and/or courses														
Commonalities in Nursing Care: Area I (48) *								X						
TOTAL			3	6	6			C						
(It may be helpful to use pencil so that you can keep a running total as you earn credits.)														

* The minimum passing scores for CPE and REDE proficiency examinations is 45

** The minimum passing scores for CLEP subject examinations is 47

VII. RECOGNIZED PROFICIENCY EXAMINATIONS

A. Testing Agencies

Many proficiency examinations from recognized testing agencies may be used to earn credit toward a Regents External (nursing) Degree. Those approved for credit, with addresses included, are:

1. NY College Proficiency Examination Program (CPEP)
   Cultural Education Center
   Room 5D45
   Albany, New York 12230

2. Regents External Degree Examinations (REDE)
   Cultural Education Center
   Room 5D45
   Albany, New York 12230

3. American College Testing Proficiency Examination Program (ACT PEP)
   P.O. Box 168
   Iowa City, Iowa 52243

4. College-Level Examination Program (CLEP)
   P.O. Box 1822
   Princeton, New Jersey 08540

5. Advanced Placement Examinations (AP)
   P.O. Box 2815
   Princeton, New Jersey 08540

6. Graduate Record Examination Advanced Tests (GRE)
   Educational Testing Service
   P.O. Box 955
   Princeton, New Jersey 08540

7. Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES)
   (You should check with the Education Services Officer at your military installations concerning these examinations)

A complete list of all proficiency examinations offered by the approved testing agencies can be found at the end of this section. If candidates are interested in taking one or more of the examinations, they should write to the appropriate agency for study guides and registration packets.

B. Testing Dates

CPEP, REDE and ACT PEP examinations are offered each January, February, May, June, October and November. Exact dates are found on the application forms. All nursing performance examinations are administered in specific locations in New York State and designated Regional Performance Assessment Centers only by appointment made through the REDP central office. Examination dates for other approved proficiency examinations are available from the appropriate testing agency.

C. Testing Locations

1. CPEP and REDE written examinations are administered at 12 testing centers located throughout New York State: Albany, Buffalo, Canton, Elmira, Long Island, New Paltz, New York City, Plattsburgh, Rochester and Syracuse.

2. All written REDE examinations and most New York College Proficiency Examinations are available outside New York State under the auspices of the American College Testing Program through its Proficiency Examination Program (ACT PEP).

3. Testing agencies other than CPEP and REDE offer their proficiency examinations at a number of test sites nationwide. The registration packet requested from the appropriate testing agency offers a list of all current testing sites.

4. The Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination is currently offered in New York State, Long Beach, California and Atlanta, Georgia. Additional Regional Performance Assessment Centers are expected to open in 1982.

D. Policy for Cancelling Examinations

1. Written Examinations

   Fees for College Proficiency Examinations and Regents External Degree Examinations are refundable as follows:

a. If a written notice of withdrawel is received up to ten days before an examination is to be given, 100% of the fee will be refunded.

b. If notice of withdrawal is received less than ten days before an examination is to be given, none of the fee will be refunded.

2. Performance Examinations

The following policy governs cancellation of the performance examinations in nursing, regardless of the center where they are administered:

Only candidates who are fully prepared should apply to take a performance examination. Written confirmation of the appointment will be sent approximately three weeks after the application is received. Candidates should expect to keep the scheduled examination appointment except in very unusual circumstances; if cancellation becomes absolutely necessary, the candidate should notify the Albany office (if being tested in New York) or the Regional office from which confirmation was received, as soon as possible. Due to the nature of these examinations, refunds will not be made. Fees already paid for an examination that is cancelled are subject to the following policy:

a. Candidates who are unable to take the performance examinations on the scheduled dates and who notify the central or regional office no later than ten days prior to the first day of the examination may apply for another appointment without additional fees.

b. Candidates who cancel the performance examinations from ten days to three days prior to the first day of the examination will be charged a fee of $50 to cover administrative expenses. The additional fee of $50 must be received in order to reschedule an examination appointment.

c. Candidates who cancel a performance examination two days or less prior to the first day of the examination, or fail to report for the examination as scheduled, will forfeit the total examination fee. This is required to meet administrative expenses that cannot be avoided on short notice. To reschedule the examination a candidate must submit a new application and full examination fee as outlined in the study guide.

E. Policy for Repeating Examinations

1. Written Examinations

Individuals may take nursing written examinations in New York State a maximum of six times per year. Candidates may repeat any written test after a minimum of 60 days have elapsed.

For information on the American College Testing Program's policy on repeating examinations, students should contact ACT.

2. Performance Examination

The Regents External Degree Nursing Faculty established the follow policy limiting the number of times a candidate is allowed to repeat the performance examination:

a. When a performance examination is failed on the first attempt a candidate may reapply for and repeat that particular examination two more times for a maximum of three times. A candidate is NOT allowed to take a performance examination more than three times except in highly unusual circumstances. An individual who has failed a performance examination three times may appeal to retake the examination. This appeal must be made in typewritten form to the Coordinator of Nursing programs no earlier than one year and no later than two years after the third failure of the examination.

b. A candidate will no longer be officially enrolled in the Regents External Degree Nursing Program following a lapse of two years from the date of the third failure of a performance examination (or immediately after the fourth failure if any appeal is granted). If a candidate then wishes to re-enroll in either Regents External Degree Nursing Program, a written appeal must be submitted to the Coordinator.

c. All appeals, related either to retaking the examination for a fourth time, or for readmission to the Regents External Degree Nursing Program, will be considered on an individual basis by the Overall Nursing Faculty Committee. The major factor that the Faculty will consider is documentation that additional competence has been gained through such ways as: clinical experience, tutoring by an appropriate teacher, course work related to the various performance areas, and changes in a candidate's work-related activities that might have increased experience in the appropriate areas of nursing practice.

VIII. PROFICIENCY EXAMINATIONS APPROVED TOWARD FULFILLING GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

CPE* = College Proficiency Examination Program
REDE* = Regents External Degree Examinations
AP = Advanced Placement (College Board) Examinations
CLEP = College-Level Examination Program
GRE = Graduate Record Examination Advanced Test
DANTES = Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (formerly USAFI)

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* Outside New York State, most of these tests are available through ACT PEP.

PREPARED BY	AREA AND TITLE	CREDITS
	Humanities	
CLEP	American Literature I	3
CLEP	American Literature II	3
CLEP	Analysis and Interpretation of Literature	6
CPE	Applied Music, Minor Level	2
CPE	Applied Music, Major Level	4
AP	Art	6
AP	Classics	6
CLEP	College French	6-12*
CLEP	College German	6-12*
CLEP	College Spanish	6-12*
AP	English	6
CLEP	College Composition-Subject	6
CLEP	English Composition-General	3
CLEP	English Literature	6
AP	French	6
GRE	French	39
CPE	Freshman English	6
CLEP	Freshman English	6
AP	German	6
GRE	German	39
CLEP	Humanities-General	6
GRE	Literature in English	39
AP	Music	6
GRE	Music	39
GRE	Philosophy	39
CPE	Shakespeare	3
AP	Spanish	6
GRE	Spanish	39

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* 6 credits for a score of 40 or more
12 credits for a score of 50 or more

PREPARED BY	AREA AND TITLE	CREDITS
	Social Sciences/History	
CPE	Afro-American History	6
CLEP	Afro-American History	3
CLEP	American Government	3
CLEP	American History I: Early Colonizations to 1877	3
CLEP	American History II: 1865 to the Present	3
AP	American History	6
CPE	American History	6
CPE	Educational Psychology	3-6**

** Exams taken up to October 1972 were 6-credit exams, thereafter 3-credit exams were given.

PREPARED BY	AREA AND TITLE	CREDITS
	Social Sciences/History (continued)	
CLEP	Educational Psychology	3
GRE	Economics	39
AP	European History	6
CLEP	General Psychology	3
GRE	Geography	39
GRE	History	39
CPE	History of American Education	3
CLEP	Human Growth & Development	3
CLEP	Introductory Macro-economics	3
CLEP	Introductory Micro-economics	3
CLEP	Introductory Micro-economics and Macro-economics	3
GRE	Political Science	39
GRE	Psychology	39
CLEP	Social Sciences/History-General	6
CLEP	Sociology (Introductory)	3
GRE	Sociology	39
CLEP	Western Civilization I: Ancient Near East to 1648	3
CLEP	Western Civilization II: 1648 to the Present	3

PREPARED BY	AREA AND TITLE	CREDITS
	Natural Sciences/Mathematics	
CPE	Anatomy and Physiology	6
CLEP	Anatomy, Physiology and Microbiology	6
AP	Biology	6
CLEP	Biology	6
GRE	Biology	39
AP	Chemistry	6
CLEP	Calculus With Element Functions	6
GRE	Chemistry	39
CLEP	College Algebra	3
CLEP	College Algebra and Trigonometry	3
GRE	Computer Science	39
CPE	Earth Science	6
CLEP	General Chemistry	6
GRE	Geology	39
CLEP	Mathematics-General	6
AP	Mathematics	6
GRE	Mathematics	39
CLEP	Microbiology	3

PREPARED BY	AREA AND TITLE	CREDITS
	Natural Sciences/Mathematics (continued)	
CLEP	Natural Sciences-General	6
AP	Physics	6
GRE	Physics	39
CLEP	Statistics	3
CLEP	Trigonometry	3
	Electives	
CLEP	Accounting (Introductory)	6
CLEP	Behavioral Sciences for Nurses (see catalog)	6
CLEP	Chemistry (Clinical)	6
CLEP	Computer Programming Elementary: Fortran IV	3
CLEP	Computers and Data Processing	3
CPE	Corrective and Remedial Instruction in Reading	9*
CPE	Criminal Investigation	3
CPE	Diagnosis and Remediation of Reading Problems	9*
GRE	Education	39
GRE	Engineering	39
CLEP	Hematology	6
CLEP	Immunohematology and Blood Banking	6
CLEP	Introduction to Business Management	3
CLEP	Introductory Business Law	3
CPE	Introduction to Criminal Justice	3
CLEP	Introductory Marketing	3
CPE	Introductory Typewriting	3
CPE	Intermediate Typewriting	3-6**
CLEP	Money and Banking	3
CPE	Reading Instruction in the Elementary School	6
REDE	Business-Level I Accounting	6
REDE	Business-Level II Accounting	9
REDE	Business-Level III Accounting	12
REDE	Business-Level I Finance	9
REDE	Business-Level II Finance	9
REDE	Business-Level III Finance	12
REDE	Business-Level I Marketing	3
REDE	Business-Level II Marketing	9
REDE	Business-Level III Marketing	12
REDE	Business-Level I Operations Management	9

* Graduate Level Examinations

** Candidates who do not already have credit in Introductory Typewriting will be granted 6 credits for successful completion of Intermediate Typewriting.

PREPARED BY	AREA AND TITLE	CREDITS
	Electives (continued)	
REDE	Business-Level II Operations Management	9
REDE	Business-Level III Operations Management	12
REDE	Business-Level I Management of Human Resources	6
REDE	Business-Level II Management of Human Resources	9
REDE	Business-Level III Management of Human Resources	12
REDE	Business-Business Environment and Strategy	6

IX STAFF OF THE REGENTS
EXTERNAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

A. The nursing degree programs are administered by the Coordinator and the nursing staff. Requests for information about the baccalaureate or associate degrees in nursing should be directed to one of the following staff:

Carrie B. Lenburg, Coordinator, Nursing Degrees
Marianne K. Lettus, Associate Coordinator
Frances Christian-Gaskin, Program Associate
Ramona Leslie, Program Associate
Barbara Smith, Program Associate
Helen Vartigian, Program Assistant
Donna Vanderwyst-Strnad, Research Supervisor
Catherine Craig, Administrative Assistant
Mary Essary, Administrative Assistant
Janet Schnurr, Administrative Assistant
Catherine Whitney, Administrative Assistant

B. Regents External Degree Administrative Staff:

Gordon M. Ambach, President, The University of the State of New York
Alvin P. Lierheimer, Director, Regents External Degree Program
David R. Bower, Administrator, Office of Postsecondary Assessment and Testing
Judith E. Safranko, Chief, Office of Independent Study Programs Development
Robert R. Anstett, Registrar, Regents External Degree Program

C. Overall Faculty Committee For Regents External Degrees in Nursing *

Helen Arnold, MS, PhD, (Adelphi University, School of Nursing)

Virginia L. Barker, MS, EdD, (University of South Carolina at Spartanburg, School of Nursing)

Leona Bishop, MS (Hudson Valley Community College)

Sylvia Edge, MA, (Middlesex County College)

Edna Gardenier, MEd, (Dutchess Community College)

Mildred L. Montag, EdD, (Professor Emeritus, Teachers College, Columbia University)

Mildred M. Norman, MA, (Harlem Hospital Center, School of Nursing)

Sibyl G. Norris, MA, EdD, (Syracuse University, School of Nursing)

Irene Pagel, MA MEd, EdD, (Adelphi University, School of Nursing)

Dolores F. Saxton, MA, EdD, (Nassau Community College)

Enda M. Scanlon, MA, (Nursing Consultant)

Sylvia Schudy, MA, (Norwalk Community College)

Kathleen M. Sward, MA, MEd, EdD, (Elmira College, School of Nursing)

Margaret G. Tyson, MA, EdD, (State University of New York at Binghamton, School of Nursing)

Beverly A. Warner, MA, PhD, (Mohawk Valley Community College, Division of Public and Health Services)

Marion H. Weber, MS, (Monroe County Department of Health)

Office Address:

Regents External Degrees in Nursing
Cultural Education Center
Albany, New York 12230
(518) 473-8957

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* Full-time institutional affiliation denoted within parentheses.

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
REGENTS EXTERNAL DEGREE PROGRAM
CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTER
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12230

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

OFFICE OF INDEPENDENT STUDY
PROGRAMS DEVELOPMENT

DEGREE PROGRAMS IN NURSING
518: 473-8057

ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE (NURSING)
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (NURSING)

For more information on the Associate in Science (nursing) degree and the Associate in Applied Science (nursing) degree, check the materials you want and return the form to the letterhead address.

A. BASIC MATERIALS

_____ REX Catalog
_____ REX Brochure
_____ Enrollment Form
_____ Application for taking written examinations in New York State*

* NOTE: To take written examinations outside New York State request application from:

ACT PEP
P.O. Box 168
Iowa City, Iowa 52243

_____ "How To Study Independently" (booklet)
_____ Nursing Advisors Listing (New York State)

B. STUDY GUIDES FOR ASSOCIATE NURSING WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS**

_____ Nursing Health Care
_____ Commonalities in Nursing Care I
_____ Commonalities in Nursing Care II
_____ Differences in Nursing Care I
_____ Differences in Nursing Care II
_____ Differences in Nursing Care III
_____ Occupational Strategy

** Outside New York State these should be obtained from ACT PEP.

C. CLINICAL PERFORMANCE IN NURSING EXAMINATION ***

_____ Clinical Performance in Nursing Examination (CPNE)

*** Study guides available only to enrolled candidates on request from REX Nursing Office.

Send Materials checked above to:

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Zip Code _____

ERIC Clearinghouse for Junior Colleges
96 Powell Library Building
University of California
Los Angeles, California 90024

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